

Bristol, April 26<sup>th</sup> 1849 Thursday

My dear Mr. May,

A letter is lying before me intended for you but unfinished, which I purposed sending with a few Reports &c which I thought might amuse <sup>you</sup> by the "Mary Jane", a ship advertised to sail from here for Boston in a day or two. On inquiring of the agent, who is a friend of mine, I have within the last hour learned that the vessel, having part of her cargo on board, is found to be leaking, & her sailing is postponed, perhaps for 3 or 4 weeks.

Your letter of April 4 received this day by the "Harris". This is so much of a business one that I will not delay answering it by the <sup>next</sup> mail packet, to go by which, it must be posted to-morrow; and having many things on hand at present, I must write in a sort of business style.

In the first place then let me say that I shall be ready & pleased to comply with Mr. Coffin's & your suggestion. Will you present my respects to Mr. Coffin & tell him that I hope to answer his letter by the ~~next~~ mail next week.

Your annoyance at Mr. Hincks's letters does not surprise me. There was injustice in his attacking the Abolitionists as he did. He ought to have said nothing on the subject, or to have fairly stated the argument on each side. He cannot fail to have damaged <sup>your</sup> cause among some here. His visit to America was a purely commercial one, but it signally failed. You need have no doubt about his honesty.



he has been persuaded to believe what he asserts: if I support  
his integrity, it must be, I admit, at the expense of his good  
sense. I wd advise you not to trouble yourself about ~~the~~ <sup>his</sup> ~~to answer~~  
~~matter~~, you have more important objects <sup>to</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>him;</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>his</sup> ~~creeping~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~your~~  
time than a controversy with Mr. Whisks. At the same time  
I say this, I cannot but believe that a short letter to the Inquirer  
simply complaining of Mr. W's injustice in thus retailing the  
bitter charges of enemies to the Abos? without mixing with  
them what in the U.S. to hear from them what they had to  
say, would be useful. It should be authenticated with a sig.  
nature, & none better than your's. To be effective, no stray upbraiding term  
<sup>shd be used.</sup>

I will send Mr. Bull's letter. I have not yet gone thro' the

Liberal: preceding that of Mar. so containing this letter.

Mr. Armstrong, whom I saw to day, had received your  
letter: he, as well as I, paid  $\frac{1}{8}$  for postage, and the envelope  
was marked "ship letter." - How can we refuse to take letters  
from Am? free of ~~post~~ <sup>water</sup> postage?

It would be a good thing if I could get Mr. Lala to  
publish Mr. Coffin's letters in the "Inquirer"; but tho' I have  
fears, I will try. It seems to me that a history of  
persons & parties engaged in the early part of the A. S. move-  
ment in your country, tho' very interesting to you, would  
aid be so to English readers, as left in a very concise  
form. A. S. people here are more anxious to know what  
you have done, why you have done, & what effects you  
expect, than who have been the actors. I say this as  
accounting for any difficulty that may arise in obtaining  
insertion of the Mr. C's letters in a periodical.



If Mr. Thompson writes to Mr. C. or any one else, request him to stand upon no ceremony with me & my letter: let him do what he thinks will best promote the purpose he has in view.

The box of "Liberty Bells" and the acceptable presents from yourself came to me on the day I was setting off with Mr. Chapman, (your correspondent,) for Martha's Vineyard in Glenhamshire. I accompanied him on a preaching expedition thither, having to operate upon a young lady for the cure of squinting & God off in passport. This obscure of some days; a visit from Mr. Madge of West Ch. for 9 or 10 days in my house, as well as that of S. Cadis, in assistant employment for some time about the "Western Ch. Union", an account of which you will find in a future "Inquirer", <sup>I understand,</sup> and some illness, have prevented my sending before the acknowledgment I had written in the letter before referred to.

I did not receive the packet until the 23<sup>rd</sup> Month I believe. Many thanks for the contents. We despatched the "Liberty Bells" in our Dr. Mrs.

Llewellyn's I took with me to Martha's, whence a friend conveyed it to her care. Your letter by the <sup>last</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>last</sup> ~~of~~ is dated Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Your account of Dr. Inell explains, to some extent, Mr. Garrison's contempt of his society. Had I to do with a ranting humbug, I fear my language w<sup>d</sup> not be very



me assured... You understand I think, that I read the Liberator  
thru & thru, & take great interest in it, but I cannot lend it  
as I hold you in too high respect to be instrumental in  
about, without prejudicing those who know less of the matter  
than I do, against the Abol. In me it is disagreeable  
to read some of the letters I see there even from Mr. Wright, & others

The coarse & unbecoming manner in which the Deity is usually spoken of, and the flippancy style in which <sup>this</sup> ~~the~~ the actions are criticized, is offensive to me, much as our & indelicate language on other subjects would be.

& indelicate language as a witness  
 If Mr. Wright possessed omniscience, he might shew as he  
 does; but in deciding what is, or what ought to be the  
 cause & intentions of Providence!!! He reminds me of the  
 fly on the dome of St. Paul's, examining with its microscope  
 eye some irregularity of the size of a pin's point on the stone,  
 & then ~~he~~ delivering its judgment upon the architectural  
 symmetry of the mighty fabric both within & without. He

W. C. Howells, knew Mr. Garrison as in Am<sup>a</sup>. He keeps a school here. He was I think ~~unfortunate~~ unfortunate in business. He is little known, has no influence, & I think but few friends. He is a warm abolitionist & understands the subject well. My intercourse with him has been pleasant. On one occasion — something affecting his character, though not blameless, I think he was rather harshly judged. Pray do not let anything I say operate unfavorably to him. This is quite confidential. He is sincere & warm-hearted, but I do not think <sup>any</sup> his advocacy of a cause would help it as in Bristol, perhaps anywhere.

"Prof. Julia Griffiths" sailed, I believe on March 24<sup>th</sup>.  
I wrote by her to Dr. Gibson of Philadelphia about a surgical  
ms. B. 1. 6 v. 2, p. 90



instrument I wanted from Am<sup>a</sup>. I know so little of Miss  
G. (nothing personally) that I did not wish to introduce  
her to you, but I hope you may see her. I suspect she  
knows not much of Abolition politics, & that her prejudices are  
against the "Am. A. S. S." Mr. Richardson, I am sure, is  
her leader.

I doubt not W. Brown, with the Crafts would occasion  
a great sensation in England if they came unmitigatedly  
on behalf of the A. S. S. cause. Were it supposed that the  
visit from them was a money speculation for their own  
benefit, they would attract but little notice. It was the  
confidence with <sup>which</sup> J. Douglass's friends were able to combat  
<sup>for</sup> the freedom from all mercenary purposes with which  
he came among us, that it once secured his popular  
cause. I am glad to hear Brown is not coming <sup>hither</sup> about  
so small a matter as the free labor-product movement.

I am trust Providence may see fit to spare Mr. Garrison  
the trial of losing another child. Scarlet fever is a very  
fatal one in this country during some of its epidemic  
visitations.

I believe I have touched on all the points in your  
letter: too briefly for my own satisfaction or no.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup>. Am I ever likely to get any reply, direct or indirect, from  
Mr. W. H. Channing about my portrait of D. C.? Before I see?  
your letter yesterday, I had on my writing table a new paper directed to  
you giving an account of an execution here this day week, to show  
you especially, the feeling <sup>imprisoned</sup> ~~here~~ about executions. All our local papers  
proclaim the evils of a public execution. The abolition of death punishment  
for murder, cannot be said to be generally ~~dis~~ approved of, tho' it is



advocated by many influential people. The clergy of the E. Ch. and believe in a large proportion, in favour of keeping the punishment. Sam Thomas was a girl of very low understanding. I know most of the gentlemen whose duty required their presence at the horrible scene.

The "Inquirer" of Feb. 14 contains an extract from the "Providence Times" alluding to a painful affair between Mr. Russell Carpenter & his Congreg. Mr. C. however has had a complete triumph, and is repaid for his anxiety by the giving up of the objectionable property. A sensation exists in the Congreg. Mr. C's friends hope he will refresh himself by a visit to

~~Wm. Brown to Eng. in~~  
~~refused a certificate to~~  
~~connect himself with Wm. R. Phillips~~  
~~as a representative of any other~~  
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~~association.~~  
 MS B. 1.6 v. 12, p. 90

PAID  
 RECEIVED  
 Samuel May Carpenter  
 Boston  
 U. States.  
 Recd. (part received) Sep. evg. May 12. 1849.  
 And May 23.  
 Rev. S. May

After being well looked after, I returned having been  
 furnished with a passport & secured. I read an article  
 in the "Inquirer" in a late, anti-slavery Standard  
 Union also, by Dwight & remembering warmly to  
 your boys - sincerely yours, J. H. Larkin.

country before settling with another congregation. His recent conduct gives him a still higher station in the opinion of our Unitarian public. I met Mr. Harris last night, he is a warm friend of your cause (see Liberator of March 30 which he takes with H. C. Howells) but to me he reads the Liberator much less than he did owing to the discussions lately in it, & especially H. C. Wright's letters: he says he probably has a general acquiescence with Mr. Wright's views, but his writing is disagreeable to him. The (Protestant) all manner was very acceptable, & also the Panorama of Boston's dreadful conflicts in America. A nephew of mine Dr. Puckett's youngest son but one, was in the latter